

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 213814
ORIGIN ARA-14

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TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213814

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, BF

SUBJECT: SHELTON/PEPPER TELCON ON US-BAHAMIAN RELATIONS

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHELTON WAS CALLED AUGUST 22 BY CONG CLAUDE PEPPER OF FLORIDA. CONG PEPPER TOLD SHELTON HE HAD CALLED FONMIN PAUL ADDERLEY, AN OLD FRIEND, LATE THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND HAD HAD A VERY FRIENDLY CONVERSATION WITH HIM. PEPPER INDICATED HE HAD TELEPHONED ADDERLEY TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN OVER THE QUOTE PRETTY SERIOUS SITUATION UNQUOTE BETWEEN THE BAHAMAS AND THE U.S. AND TO UNDERScore HIS CONVICTION THAT QUOTE SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE BEFORE MATTERS GET WORSE UNQUOTE. ACCORDING TO PEPPER, ADDERLEY SAID HE WAS TOTALLY IN AGREEMENT AND WISHED TO DISCUSS U.S.-BAHAMIAN RELATIONS WITH PEPPER SINCE, AS ADDERLEY PUT IT, QUOTE I KNOW YOU ARE MY FRIEND UNQUOTE. PEPPER FURTHER SUGGESTED TO ADDERLEY THAT THE TOP LEVELS OF THE GCOB AND THE USG SHOULD SIT DOWN AND TALK. ADDERLEY, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED A CLEAR DESIRE TO MEET FIRST WITH PEPPER WITHOUT IMPLYING ACQUIESCENCE IN THE
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IDEA OF A BROADER MEETING.

2. ADDERLEY AND PEPPER TENTATIVELY AGREED TO MEET IN MIAMI ON SEPT 4. EACH AGREED TO CHECK HIS RESPECTIVE SCHEDULE AND TO GET BACK IN TOUCH THIS WEEK TO CONFIRM.

A SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE DATE WAS MID-SEPTEMBER WHEN

ADDERLEY APPARENTLY PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK CITY.

3. SHELTON OFFERED TO PROVIDE PEPPER WITH APPROPRIATE BRIEFING MATERIALS AS BACKGROUND TO HIS MEETING WITH ADDERELEY. PEPPER WAS VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE ASSISTANCE AND OFFERED TO TELEPHONE SHELTON TO BRIEF HER AFTER HIS MEETING WITH ADDERLEY. CHRISTOPHER

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213814

FOR AMBASSADOR ALDRICH, U.S. DEL/LOS

FOL RPT STATE 213814 SENT ACTION NASSAU DTD 23 AUG 78

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